

42. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the instructions for installing the software in the file comprise instructions for installing the software in appropriate directories.

43. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the instructions for installing the software in the file comprise instructions for deleting files.

44. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the instructions for installing the software in the file comprise instructions for updating files.

45. (New) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 39.

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46. (New) A method of building a file for installing desired software at a remote computer, the method comprising:
placing the desired software in the file;
placing instructions for installing the software in the file;
placing, at a location within the file so as to be automatically executed upon execution of the file, instructions for automatically invoking the instructions for installing the software in the file.

47. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having a computer-executable distribution file for distributing software to a computer and installing the software on the computer upon execution of the distribution file, the distribution file comprising:
software installable at the computer; and
an installation program co-resident in the distribution file with the software, the installation program operable to install the software and arranged within the distribution file to automatically install the software upon execution of the distribution file.

48. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47 wherein the distribution file is combined with a digital signature of the distribution file into a digitally-signed file.

49. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47 wherein a digital signature of the distribution file is appended to the distribution file.

50. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47 wherein the installation program comprises instructions for installing the software in appropriate directories.

51. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47 wherein the installation program comprises instructions for deleting files.

52. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47 wherein the installation program comprises instructions for updating files.

53. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having a distribution file for distributing and installing software on a computer, the distribution file comprising:

software installable at the computer;

an installer co-resident in the distribution file with the software, the installer operable to install the software;

an extractor co-resident in the distribution file with the software, the extractor operable to extract the software from the distribution file and automatically invoked upon execution of the distribution file; and

installer starting instructions arranged within the distribution file to be automatically executed upon completion of extraction of the software, the installer starting instructions operable to start the installer to install the software.